

What Turning the Other Cheek Really Means

Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?

John 6:60 (KJV) 



A subject I have touched upon before but never really studied deeply is that of physical violence. To be specific God has shown me in His Word that we should never harm another person, even if they try to harm us. I was hoping I could avoid it because I understand it is a topic that most Christians will vehemently disagree with me on.

However that has never deterred me in the past from speaking the truth and it will not now.

If it is any consolation I do not like this doctrine one bit. Truth be told, I don't like any of the many scriptures that say we must suffer for the sake of the kingdom. Although God is sympathetic to our suffering I'm pretty sure that He does not like us deciding His commandments are mere suggestions, or that we can take certain scriptures symbolically instead of literally when it is convenient. That being said, I did seek the Lord further on this matter and He gave me yet more scripture on the subject.

Eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,
Exodus 21:24 (KJV) 

Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also.

Matthew 5:38-39 (KJV) 

This is a verse that even those who know scripture should always be interpreted literally when possible shy away from. Could it be that Christ meant for us to literally turn the other cheek when we're persecuted just as He did?

He giveth his cheek to him that smiteth him: he is filled full with reproach.
Lamentations 3:30 (KJV) 

And unto him that smiteth thee on the one cheek offer also the other; and him that taketh away thy cloke forbid not to take thy coat also.

Luke 6:29 (KJV) 

Something that all Christians need to carefully consider is that the "Sermon on the mount" turned much of the law upside down. For those who want truth above all a detailed study of Matthew five will reveal that Christ is fully conscious that He is contradicting Old Testament scripture. He is teaching us to do everything the exact opposite of what the flesh craves. And furthermore He teaches that if our eye or right hand gets in the way of us doing that we should cut them off!

At this point the naysayers should really be squirming, especially the Hebrew Roots cultists who don't seem to grasp that Christ fulfilled (finished) the law for us. Sometimes the Old testament agrees with New, but when it doesn't we must always take note and go with the New testament. That was the point of

Christ saying “Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth”. He is saying that was the old way and now this is the new. And as the Son of God (God incarnate) He had every right and authority to set aside the law. The law is still in effect, however it only serves to convict those who fail to avail themselves to the work Christ did on the cross. We who are under grace have the responsibility to follow the teachings of Christ and thereby work out our salvation with fear and trembling.

With this understanding we can now toss out every single Old Testament scripture used to support violence as no longer applicable under the new covenant, just as we do sacrificing a bullock for our sins. The people knew what eye for an eye, tooth for tooth meant, they took it literally. It is only reasonable that we do the same by turning the other cheek.

And he said unto them, When I sent you without purse, and scrip, and shoes, lacked ye any thing? And they said, Nothing. Then said he unto them, But now, he that hath a purse, let him take it, and likewise his scrip: and he that hath no sword, let him sell his garment, and buy one. For I say unto you, that this that is written must yet be accomplished in me, And he was reckoned among the transgressors: for the things concerning me have an end. And they said, Lord, behold, here are two swords. And he said unto them, It is enough.

Luke 22:35-38 (KJV) 

When they which were about him saw what would follow, they said unto him, Lord, shall we smite with the sword? And one of them smote the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear. And Jesus answered and said, Suffer ye thus far. And he touched his ear, and healed him.

Luke 22:49-51 (KJV) 

Poor Peter! First Jesus tells him it is time to sell his clothes to get a sword, then barely ten verses later he uses one to defend Him and gets rebuked! Like many Christians reading this passage Peter assumed Jesus was saying to buy a sword because He meant for them to defend themselves. But this is clearly not the case. How can I be so sure? Look at Matthew's telling of the same incident.

And, behold, one of them which were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest's, and smote off his ear. Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

Matthew 26:51-53 (KJV) 

It is in fact from Christ's own mouth that we get the saying "Those who live by the sword, die by the sword". He plainly says that all who live by the sword shall perish by it, precluding any suggestion that He merely rebuked Peter in this instance so scripture could be fulfilled. To have told them to start living by the sword would have been a contradiction.

So what was Christ speaking of? I believe the answer is right there. Christ was not telling them they had to start physically defending themselves, that was made abundantly clear by His chastising of Peter. What He was saying is that they must take up their spiritual swords.

And when he had called the people unto him with his disciples also, he said unto them, Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

Mark 8:34 (KJV) 

He doesn't tell us to take up our sword, but to take up our cross. Throughout scripture we are told that those who will live for God shall suffer.

**For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;
2 Corinthians 2:4 (KJV)**

**For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.
Ephesians 6:12 (KJV)**

Scan the above scripture carefully and ask the Holy Spirit to open up the truth to you. Are we to wield carnal weapons (knives, guns bombs etc)? No we are not. Do we wrestle against flesh and blood (get into physical altercations)? No, we do not.

We have been conditioned by thousands of hours of movies and TV to seek justice and revenge for ourselves in this world when things don't go our way. An eye for an eye we are taught. But Christ told us to turn the other cheek. Reality check here folks. The NWO isn't the least bit scared of your guns or else why would they have been indoctrinating us with all their violent media? They could care less if their useful idiots (military and police who will shoot on American citizens) and useless eaters (the rest) slaughter each other while they hide in their dens. As a matter of fact that is precisely their plan.

What they are not prepared for is the Christian who makes a conscious choice to forgo carnal weapons, but instead wields the Word of God, our spiritual weaponry. And when we do we have a promise from God that no weapon formed against us shall prosper. Don't you see? They can buy millions of rounds of ammo to outgun you, but when we take the battle to the spiritual plane they have nothing with which to fight against us!

**But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;
1 Corinthians 1:27 (KJV)**

This teaching goes completely against our flesh and mortal logic. At some point in our walk with Christ we will all be faced with making the choice between going with what our physical or spiritual eyes tell us. Did Peter walk on water? Did the Hebrew children walk around in the fiery furnace unharmed? If it is your destiny to die as a martyr no amount of weaponry will change that. But we must not fall into their trap of fighting the New World Order on their terms using carnal weapons. Trust Jesus today to protect you and your family, not Smith and Wesson. May it be unto you according to your faith.

